

Gallatin City-County Health Department

For more information, contact Health Department at 582-3100

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 2, 2008

SPECIAL MEETING CALLED TO ASSESS CHILDREN'S NEEDS IN GALLATIN COUNTY

A community meeting will be held on **December 10, 2008, 7am – 9:30am** at **Bozeman Deaconess Hospital Bitterroot Meeting Room** to assess children's needs in Gallatin County and in Montana. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to consider and discuss a children's legislative agenda to be presented to the 2009 Montana Legislature.

Community representatives will have an opportunity to meet with any local legislators in attendance and other community leaders to discuss the status of children in our area. There will also be an opportunity to discuss issues of importance to mothers, children and families across Montana.

Topics will include health issues such as access to health care for children and families, access to dental care, highway injury and death issues; family security issues; children's mental health issues; and several other proposals.

The meeting will be an opportunity to review what is being done for children, what needs to be done, and a discussion of the next steps the community needs to take.

Everyone who has an interest in children's issues is invited to attend this community meeting on children. The meeting is being sponsored by *Bozeman Deaconess Hospital and Gallatin City-County Health Department*. Statewide cosponsors include: *Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, The Montana Coalition and the Montana Council for Maternal and Child Health*.

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